

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #78

Safeguarding awareness, new guidance for community buildings & #FundAlerts

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

19 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

This week we are supporting two safeguarding awareness campaigns, drawing attention to the need for voluntary organisations to review their safeguarding policies. The briefing also includes ACRE's updated guidance for community buildings, information on vacancies at Community Impact Bucks, and an offer to share your festive news.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding has come under the spotlight this week during two national awareness weeks, [Safeguarding Adults Week](#) and [Village Hall Safeguarding Week](#), which have highlighted how we all have a role in protecting others.

If you work or volunteer for a charity or community group, it is worth checking what safeguarding policies are in place and if they have been updated to fit with changing circumstances – for example, does your policy cover support services that you are now delivering online during the pandemic? If you would like advice on what your organisation needs to have in place, contact our Lead for Safeguarding Helen Archer on helen.archer@communityimpactbucks.org.uk and have a look at our [Safeguarding Support webpage](#).

You can also find other safeguarding resources on our website including a [video on how to keep volunteers safe](#) and advice for groups on [safeguarding during the pandemic](#).

LATEST GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS FOLLOWING NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS

Updated [key information](#) for community buildings and halls has been provided by our umbrella organisation [ACRE](#) in our role as Rural Community Council for Buckinghamshire. There is now a further section addressing questions that have arisen relating to permitted activities including support groups such as Parent and Toddler groups, as well as note on financial support.

ACRE recognises that many community halls are currently required to remain open, for example for Pre-schools and essential services, while facing reduced income and unsustainable losses. ACRE has asked the Government to issue clarification that they are eligible for the Restrictions Support Grant as soon as possible.

Further details about the latest information for community buildings and village halls can be found on our [Community Buildings webpage](#). It also includes information about our Community Buildings Service whereby subscribers automatically receive information and guidance updates.

COMMUNITY IMPACT BUCKS IS RECRUITING

We are recruiting for a number of posts to join our team – have a look at the opportunities on our [website](#).

SHARING GOOD NEWS STORIES

We would like to share your good news and activities; if you have any festive news or anything you would like to spread the word about, tag us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Alternatively, you can send us information via comms@communityimpactbucks.org.uk.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR BUCKS CHARITIES

Originally set for 4 December 2020, we have moved our 1:1 legal advice sessions with [IBB Law](#), a local law firm with a specialist department for charities to 28 January 2021.

If your charity would benefit from talking through a specific legal or governance issue with a charity law expert for free, visit our [Training and Events](#) webpage for more information and to book.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Are you ready for Giving Tuesday on 1 December 2020? This annual event is a day when people can give back to a cause that they feel passionate about by volunteering their time, donating goods or money, or organising a community event such as a coffee morning.

If your organisation is thinking of taking part in Giving Tuesday, we would recommend downloading Third Sector's [report on how to get the most from Giving Tuesday](#).

#FUNDALERTS

New funds are opened up regularly; to keep up-to-date with the latest announcements and for support on all aspects of funding, visit our [COVID-19 Funding webpages](#) and read our [top ten tips on how to write a successful funding application](#).

Three new funds are highlighted below:

- **Grants for voluntary groups offering support to adults in the local community:** Buckinghamshire Council's Community Prevention Grant fund is now open for applications. Any voluntary, faith or community group or charity that provides support to adults to live independently in their local community is eligible to apply for funding. Applications are open until Wednesday 2 December. Find out more on the [Buckinghamshire Council website](#).
- **Funding for organisations active in the arts and working in partnership with schools and other formal education settings:** grants from £30,000 to £400,000 are available to support arts-based work that tackles the disruption caused to education by the Covid-19 pandemic and the adverse impact on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, particularly those experiencing systemic inequality and barriers to learning. For more information about the Fund and the pre-application access support, including a bursary of up to £500 to help organisations apply, visit [Paul Hamlyn Foundation's Arts- based Learning Fund](#).
- **Funding for programmes helping to make the arts more accessible:** grants from £30,000 to £400,000 are available for not-for-profit organisations for activities supporting change in the way the arts are created, presented, accessed and experienced. The arts activities will be improving access and participation to a more diverse group, including those who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Pre-application access support and a bursary of up to £500 is available to help groups apply. For more information, visit [Paul Hamlyn's Access and Participation Fund](#).

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